[19th May 1954

Suit against the District Munsif of Thuraiyur for alleged assault, defamation, etc.

* 1088 *Q.*—Sri S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a suit was instituted against the District Munsif of Thuraiyur for alleged assault, defamation, etc., in the Sub-Court of Tiruchirappalli in 1951;

(*b*) whether the Government defended the suit on his behalf;

(*c*) the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon;

(*d*) the result of this suit; and

(*e*) the consideration on which Government incur expenditure for Government servants in action against such servants by private parties?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The defence of the officer was sanctioned by the High Court as the officer is under its administrative control.

" (*c*) The Court allowed Rs. 245 as fees to the Government Pleader, Tiruchirappalli. The Board has been asked to address the High Court who are competent to sanction the amount.

" (*d*) The suit was dismissed as agreed to by the parties without costs.

" (*e*) Public officers will always be protected when it appears to the Government that they have acted in good faith, but the Government do not bind themselves to undertake their defence when this is not the case. Orders sanctioning such expenditure are issued in accordance with the rules framed in that behalf."

Report on the pilot project regarding the lignite deposits in Neyveli.

* 1089 *Q.*—Sri M. KALYANASUNDRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have examined the report on the results of the pilot project regarding the lignite deposits in Neyveli; and

(*b*) if so, what are the proposals of the Government to establish a regular mining industry to work these deposits?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir. The pilot project is only in progress and has not been completed and hence no report on the results has been received.

" (*b*) The question of preparation of a project report for the large-scale exploitation of lignite is under the consideration of the Government of India."